

Richard H. Hodson
Mayor
111 River Styx Road
Hopatcong, NJ 07843

October 10, 2004

Mr. Hodson,

Re: Village Grande at Hopatcong

The Musconetcong Watershed Association (MWA) has serious concerns regarding the proposed D.R. Horton development which would be situated in the Hopatcong Heights section of the township. The MWA urges the Township Committee, the Planning Board and the Environmental Committee to consider the impact on the Musconetcong River of the conversion of this segment of the watershed from steep slopes, wetlands and natural landscapes to a high density residential land use.

A development such as the one proposed by D.R. Horton, which involves paving over many acres of land will certainly impact local flooding, stream bank erosion, water temperature and water quality. In its current state, the property provides critical area for groundwater recharge. Loss of this area has potential to affect both water quality and quantity for area residents. The location of the proposed development in the Hopatcong Heights section of the town will certainly have negative impacts on the Musconetcong River. Site topography will send runoff from the development will drain to both Lubber's Run and Lake Musconetcong.

As concerned members of the public, the MWA hopes to be a part of the process used to review the impacts, scope and exact location of this project.

Sincerely,

Beth Styler Barry
Executive Director